

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starkey et al U.S. 6400261 in view of Shimura U.S. 6791457.

Claims 8, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starkey et al and Shimura and further in view of Hochstein U.S. 4450431.

In the official action the examiner refers to the Starkey reference and acknowledges that Starkey fails to disclose the transmitter for emitting interrogation and/or control signals comprising an oscillating circuit comprising a radiator and an amplifier having an amplifier input and an amplifier output being coupled back to the amplifier input. Then the examiner refers to the Shimura reference which in the examiner's opinion discloses a feedback to the central processing unit CPU215 and to the amplifier 216C, see the central portion of page 5 of his action. However, the examiner is incorrect in his understanding.

Figure 8 of the Shimura reference is described in column 8 of the Shimura reference, particularly column 8 lines 10 to 17. The line from the outgoing unit 216 to the input of the CPU215A and further to the input of the outgoing unit 216, particularly to the input of the modulation circuit 216A, includes "antenna changer 211". According to column 8 lines 10 to 15, the antenna changer 211 switches the data transmission and reception antenna 201 to either the A/D conversion circuit 213 or the outgoing unit 216 in accordance with a control signal from the CPU215A for connection. That means that whenever a control signal is fed from outgoing unit 216 to the antenna 201, the antenna changer 211 cuts the line to the A/D conversion circuit 213 so that the control signal is not coupled back to the input of the outgoing unit and can not be coupled back to the input of the outgoing unit 216.

Accordingly there is no possibility that the frequency of the control signal from the outgoing unit 216 can lock to the individual resonant frequency of the antenna 201. In fact, the Shimura reference discloses in column 8, lines 43 to 49 that the preselected frequency of for example 13.56 Megahertz is used, and that for this reason the data transmission-reception antenna 201 has been set so as to produce resonance at a frequency of 13.56 Megahertz.

Accordingly, the combined teaching of Shimura and Starkey can not lead a person skilled in the art to the present invention.

Additionally, the Shimura teaches to use a frequency of 13.56 Megahertz of the control signal which is about 10 times to 100 times higher than the frequency which is presently claimed in claims 1 or 19 of the application.

Further, even if the antenna changer 211 of the Shimura reference would not interrupt the line between output and input of the amplification circuit 216, the antenna 201 would not be located in this back-coupling line between the output and the input of the amplification circuit.

The claims have been amended to more clearly set out these distinctions.

CONCLUSION

Applicant asserts that all of the objections have been obviated, and now respectfully requests withdrawal of those objections and an allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Orum', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

Keith H. Orum
Attorney for Applicant
Registration Number 33985

DRUM & ROTH LLC
53 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-3606
312.922.6262 PHONE
312.922.7747 FAX



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Beata Bukranova